Presentation by Elisabeth Kaneza at the 15th Session of the

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**Abstract**

The International Decade for People of African Descent provides a unique framework for states and civil society to form partnerships for concerted efforts against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Cooperation must be regarded as a key principle of the Decade since the Programme of Activities stresses the importance of a people-centred approach: The active participation of people of African descent has to be ensured at all levels. Civil society organisations should be consulted and actively involved in the formulation and implementation of measures for the Decade.

Germany launched the International Decade for People of African Descent on 7 June 2016. The launching event marked the beginning of a unique multi-stakeholders cooperation that was initiated by communities and civil society. It produced an increased engagement for the Decade at different levels with significant results for the recognition of people of African descent in Germany: Among others the goals of the Decade were adopted in the new National Action Plan against Racism by recognising anti-Black racism. Moreover, the implementation of the Decade now forms part of the provisions laid down in the coalition agreement of the government of the state of Berlin.

This presentation will discuss good practices from Germany and present general recommendations with regard to multi-stakeholders cooperation for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent.